

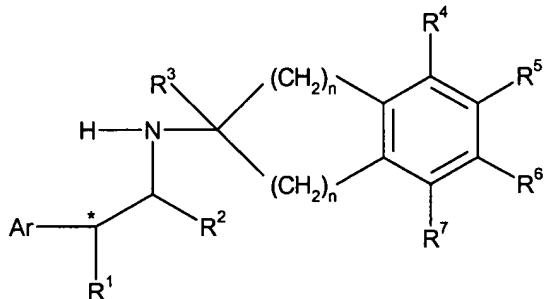
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

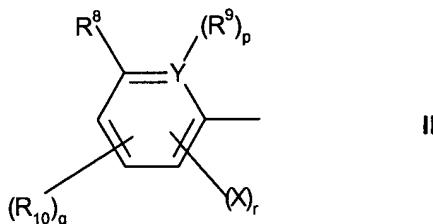
1-16.(Cancelled).

17.(Currently amended) A compound of formula



in free or salt or solvate form, where

Ar is a group of formula



R¹ is hydrogen, hydroxy, or alkoxy[.];

R² and R³ are each independently hydrogen or alkyl[.];

R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are each independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, alkoxy, aryl, alkyl, alkyl substituted by one or more halogen atoms or one or more hydroxy or alkoxy groups, interrupted C₂ to C₁₀ alkyl in which one or more pairs of carbon atoms are linked by -O-, -NR-, -S-, -S(=O)- or -SO₂-; where R is hydrogen or C₁ to C₁₀ alkyl, alkenyl, trialkylsilyl, carboxy, alkoxy carbonyl, or -CONR¹¹R¹², where R¹¹ and R¹² are each independently hydrogen or alkyl, or R⁴ and R⁵, R⁵ and R⁶, or R⁶ and R⁷ together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached denote a carbocyclic or a 5- or 6-membered O-heterocyclic ring containing one or two oxygen atoms[.];

R⁸ is halogen, -OR¹³, -CH₂OR¹³ or -NHR¹³ where R¹³ is hydrogen, alkyl, alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, -COR¹⁴, where R¹⁴ is hydrogen, -N(R¹⁵)R¹⁶, alkyl or alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, or aryl and R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are each independently hydrogen, alkyl or alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, or R¹³ is -C(=NH)R¹⁷, -SOR¹⁷ or -SO₂R¹⁷ where

R¹⁷ is alkyl or alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, and R⁹ is hydrogen, or R⁸ is -NHR¹⁸ where -NHR¹⁸ and R⁹, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, denote a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle[.];

R¹⁰ is -OR¹⁹ or -NHR¹⁹ where R¹⁹ is hydrogen, alkyl, alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, or -COR²⁰, where R²⁰ is -N(R²¹)R²², alkyl or alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, or aryl, and R²¹ and R²² are each independently hydrogen, alkyl or alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms[.];

X is halogen or halomethyl or alkyl[.];

Y is carbon or nitrogen[.];

n is 1 or 2[.];

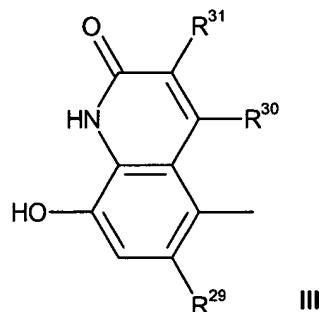
p is zero when Y is nitrogen or 1 when Y is carbon[.];

q and r are each zero or 1, the sum of q+r is 1 or 2; and

the carbon atom marked with an asterisk* has the R or S configuration, or a mixture thereof, when R¹ is hydroxy or alkoxy.

18.(Cancelled)

19.(Currently amended) A compound according to claim 17, in which Ar is a group of formula III:



in which R²⁹, R³⁰ and R³¹ are each independently hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl;

R¹ is hydroxyl[.];

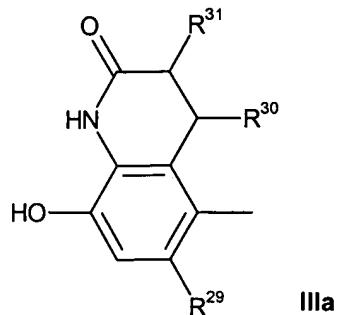
R² and R³ are hydrogen[.]; and

R⁴ and R⁷ are identical and are each hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl or C₁-C₄-alkoxy[.]; and

either R⁵ and R⁶ are identical and are each hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy or C₁-C₄-alkoxy-C₁-C₄-alkyl, or R⁵ and R⁶ together denote -(CH₂)₄- or -O(CH₂)₂O-.

20.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 19, in which the carbon atom in formula I marked with an asterisk * has the R configuration.

21.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 17, in which Ar is a group of formula



where R²⁹, R³⁰ and R³¹ are each independently hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl.

22.(Cancelled)

23.(Cancelled)

24.(Cancelled)

25.(Cancelled)

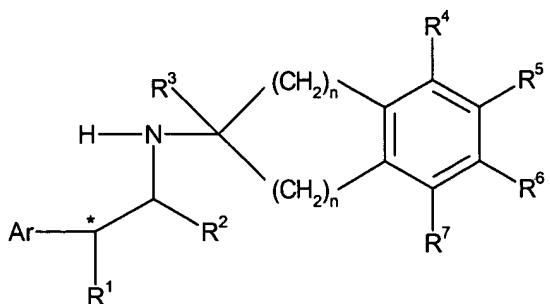
26.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 17, in which R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are each hydrogen or are such that the benzene ring to which they are attached is symmetrically substituted.

27.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 19, in which Ar is a group of formula III, R¹ is hydroxy, R² and R³ are hydrogen, R⁴ and R⁷ are identical and are each hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl or C₁-C₄-alkoxy, and either R⁵ and R⁶ are identical and are each hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy or C₁-C₄-alkoxy-C₁-C₄-alkyl, or R⁵ and R⁶ together denote -(CH₂)₄- or -O(CH₂)₂O-, in free or salt or solvate form.

28.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 27, in which the carbon atom in formula I marked with an asterisk * has the R configuration.

29.(Currently amended)

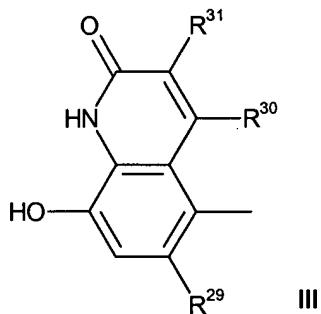
A compound of formula



I

in free or salt or solvate form,

(A) wherein Ar is a group of formula



III

in which R²⁹, R³⁰ and R³¹ are each H, R¹ is OH, R² and R³ are each H and

- (i) n is 1, and R⁴ and R⁷ are each CH₃O- and R⁵ and R⁶ are each H; or
- (ii) n is 1, and R⁴ and R⁷ are each H and R⁵ and R⁶ are each CH₃CH₂-; or
- (iii) n is 1, and R⁴ and R⁷ are each H and R⁵ and R⁶ are each CH₃-; or
- (iv) n is 1, and R⁴ and R⁷ are each CH₃CH₂- and R⁵ and R⁶ are each H; or
- (v) n is 1, and R⁴ and R⁷ are each H and R⁵ and R⁶ together denote -(CH₂)₄-; or
- (vi) n is 1, and R⁴ and R⁷ are each H and R⁵ and R⁶ together denote -O(CH₂)₂O-; or
- (vii) n is 1, and R⁴ and R⁷ are each H and R⁵ and R⁶ are each CH₃(CH₂)₃-; or
- (viii) n is 1, and R⁴ and R⁷ are each H and R⁵ and R⁶ are each CH₃(CH₂)₂-; or
- (ix) n is 2, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are each H; or
- (x) n is 1, and R⁴ and R⁷ are each H and R⁵ and R⁶ are each CH₃OCH₂-; or

(B) (C) which is a compound selected from

8-hydroxy-5-[1-hydroxy-2-(indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-1H-quinolin-2-one;

5-[2-(5,6-dimethoxy-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one;

5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-3-methyl-1H-quinolin-2-one;
5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-methoxymethoxy-6-methyl-1H-quinolin-2-one;
5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-6-methyl-1H-quinolin-2-one;
8-hydroxy-5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-quinolin-2-one;
5-[(R)-2-(5,6-diethyl-2-methyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one;
(S)-5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one-hydrochloride;
5-[(R)-1-hydroxy-2-(6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-5H-benzocyclohepten-7-ylamino)-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one hydrochloride;
(R)-5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one maleate;
(R)-5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one hydrochloride;
(R)-8-hydroxy-5-[(S)-1-hydroxy-2-(4,5,6,7-tetramethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-1H-quinolin-2-one;
8-hydroxy-5-[(R)-1-hydroxy-2-(2-methyl-indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-1H-quinolin-2-one;
5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one;
8-hydroxy-5-[(R)-1-hydroxy-2-(2-methyl-2,3,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-1H-cyclopenta[b]naphthalen-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-1H-quinolin-2-one; or
5-[(S)-2-(2,3,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-1H-cyclopenta[b]naphthalen-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one.

30.(Cancelled)

31.(Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 17, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

32.(Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 28, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

33.(Currently amended) A method for the treatment of a condition which is ~~prevented or~~ alleviated by activation of the β_2 -adrenoreceptor which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 17.

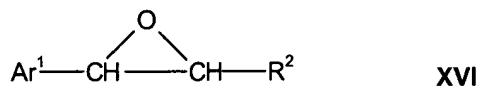
34.(Previously presented) A method for the treatment of an obstructive or inflammatory airways disease which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 17.

35.(Previously presented) A method for the treatment of obstructive or inflammatory airways disease which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 29.

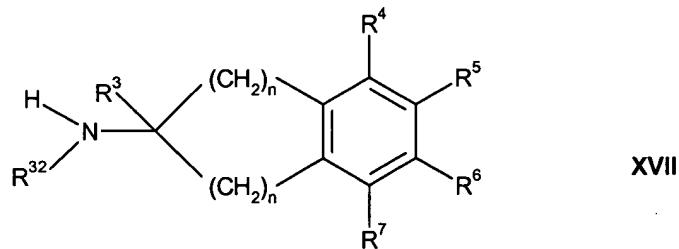
36.(Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I in free or salt or solvate form comprising:

(a) for the preparation of a compound where R¹ is hydroxy, either

(i) reacting a compound of formula

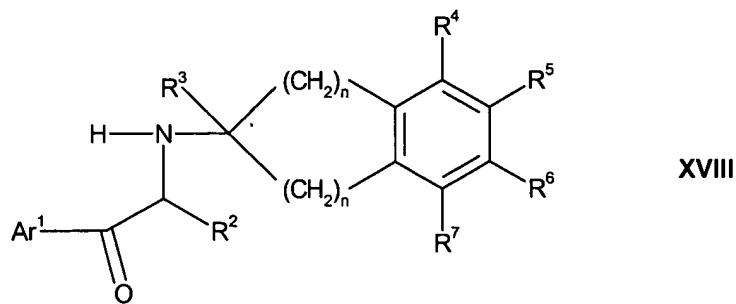


with a compound of formula



where Ar¹ is Ar as defined in claim 17 or a protected form thereof, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ and n are as defined in claim 17 and R³² is hydrogen or an amine-protective group, or

(ii) reducing a compound of formula



where Ar¹ is Ar as defined in claim 17 or a protected form thereof, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ are as defined in claim 17, to convert the indicated keto group into -CH(OH)-; or

(b) for the preparation of a compound where R¹ is hydrogen, reducing a corresponding compound of formula I where R¹ is hydroxy; or

(c) for the preparation of a compound of formula I where R¹ is alkoxy, either (i) O-alkylating a corresponding compound of formula I where R¹ is hydroxy or (ii) reacting a corresponding compound having a leaving moiety instead of R¹ with an alcohol of formula R¹H where R¹ is alkoxy;

and, optionally, converting a resultant compound of formula I in protected form into a corresponding compound in unprotected form;

and recovering the resultant compound of formula I in free or salt or solvate form.

37.(Cancelled)

38. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 17 in combination with ~~and~~ a steroid, a dopamine receptor agonist or an anticholinergic or antimuscarinic agent.

39. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 29 in combination with ~~and~~ a steroid, a dopamine receptor agonist or an anticholinergic or antimuscarinic agent.

40. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 29 in combination with ~~and~~ a steroid selected from the group consisting of budesonide, fluticasone and mometasone, or an anticholinergic or antimuscarinic agent selected from the group consisting of ipratropium bromide, oxitropium bromide and tiotropium bromide.

41. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 17, in which Ar is a group of formula II in which Y is carbon,

R⁸ is -NHR¹⁸ and -NHR¹⁸ and R⁹ together denote

a group of formula -NH-CO-R²³- where R²³ is an alkenylene group,

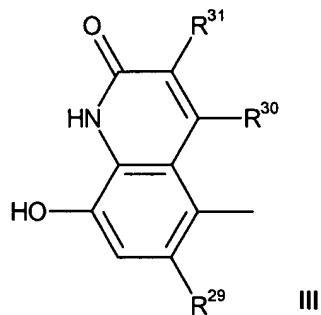
R¹⁰ is -OR¹⁹, where R¹⁹ is as defined in claim 17,

X is alkyl,

p is 1, q is 1 and r is zero or 1.

42. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 29, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

43. (New) A compound according to claim 17, in which Ar is a group of formula III



in which R²⁹, R³⁰ and R³¹ are each independently hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl.

44. (New) A compound according to claim 27, in which R⁴ and R⁷ are each hydrogen, and R⁵ and R⁶ are identical and are each C₁-C₄-alkyl.

45. (New) A compound according to claim 28, in which R⁴ and R⁷ are each hydrogen, and R⁵ and R⁶ are identical and are each C₁-C₄-alkyl.